



upon his character, Mr. Clay, on being beckoned to rise, waved his hand significantly, and re-mained silent.

*From the Chicago Press and Tribune.*

LETTER FROM HON. JOHN P. HALE.

Learning, on Saturday morning, that Hon. John P. Hale was in this city, and having just laid down the *New York Herald*, in which he is roundly charged with complicity in the Harper's Ferry affair, we addressed him a note, which with the reply is printed below. The reply effectually disposed of the *Herald's* infamous charge.

OFFICE PRESS AND TRIBUNE,  
Chicago, November 23, 1859.

DEAR SIR:—We are in the published letters of one Col. Forbes of New York, and the comments of the *New York Herald* thereon, an attempt to implicate you in common with Senator Seward, Gov. Chase, Gov. Fletcher, and other well-known Republicans, in the Harper's Ferry insurrection, led by John Brown. We believe all covert charges are founded in fact, and are supported by the facts; hence we beg of you, for publication, a statement of your connection with and knowledge of the author of the letters to which we refer, and the insurance now happily at an end.

Yours, very truly and respectfully,  
EDWARD PRESS AND TRIBUNE.  
Hon. John P. Hale.

MURKIN HOUSE, CHICAGO,  
October 23, 1859.

GENTLEMEN:—Since I received your note this morning, we have seen a number of the *New York Herald*, to which you refer, and the comments in it on the subject of the Harper's Ferry. The main thing proved by this correspondence is, that, for the last year and a half, at least, the party of the Harper's Ferry outbreak was well known to Seward, Sumner, Hale, and others, and that, in their intense selfishness, and to forward their political or commercial speculations, and feed their avarice, they have been the most diabolical trait that it has borne. They—*not* the crazy fanatic, John Brown—are the real culprits; and it is they, not he, who, if justice were fairly meted out, would have to grace the gallows.

In the same paper I find in large letters the following:—“*Senate, Seward, Summer, Hale, White, Giddings, Hale, and others, implicated in old Brown's plot.*” And again, in the same paper, under the head, “*Most Important Discoveries*” in large letters, the following, viz.: “*Further documentary testimony involving Seward, Summer, Hale, Lawrence, Chase, Fletcher, and other prominent Abolitionists; correspondence between Col. Forbes and Seward, Summer, and Hale.*”

Again, in another article, in the same paper, which appears to be editorial, *et cetera* understand, it appears the following, relating to Col. Forbes:—“*Again, he had interviews with the Legislature and members of Congress, came off in Maryland last Wednesday. In the delegation to Congress the parties held their each, electing three members. In the legislative election, the “Democracy” have gained ground, and it is said will have a majority of twenty. But the large American majority in Baltimore secures the State officers to that party.*”

But it was not our purpose to present the article to discuss this branch of the subject. Our object just now is to point out the effects, rather than the causes, of the recent outbreak.

OUR NEW PROSPECTUS.

We beg the special attention of our subscribers to the Prospectus of the Era for the Fourteenth volume, which will be found in this week's issue.

Our Exchanges will confer a favor by inserting it in the columns of their paper, or calling editorial attention to it.

TO SUBSCRIBERS—BILLS.

A great many bills go out in this week's *Era*. Will our subscribers look out for them. Take care that they do not slip out, unnoticed. They should receive immediate attention. The work of renewing our list every year is onerous. Every paper is stopped where the subscription is not forwarded in advance. If agents are slow in calling upon you, don't wait, but renew your own subscription.

MARYLAND ELECTION.

An election of certain State officers, together with the Legislature and members of Congress, came off in Maryland last Wednesday. In the delegation to Congress the parties held their each, electing three members. In the legislative election, the “Democracy” have gained ground, and it is said will have a majority of twenty. But the large American majority in Baltimore secures the State officers to that party.

Baltimore was again the scene of rioting and murder. Each party lays the blame of the disorders at the door of the other, and doubtless both are right in this particular. The “Democracy” affect to be horror-stricken at the outrages of the Plug-Uglies, and other rowdy clubs, in the interest of the American party, while they keep in their pay the same sort of clubs, in all the cities of the Union; and, with one question, they were the first party in this country to employ such instruments.

We hold the *Democrat* paper of the South, demands more loudly than ever protection to slave property, and hurls the charge of “traitor” against the Southern man who, after the Harper's Ferry invasion, “questions the necessity or denies the right of Slavery to protection.” This startling article in the *Democrat* will be echoed and re-echoed, from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, by every “Democrat” organ; and we shall be greatly surprised if the Southern Opposition do not assume the same ultra position. So that there will be no possible chance to rally the party to the support of the N. Y. *Herald* has proposed the measure, as its tendency will be to enslave the people of the North in its favor! The *Democrat* may be well at ease on that point. The people of the North, and the friends of Freedom everywhere, understand the position of affairs to well to be imposed by a miserable mockery. They have no idea of conceding the country south of 36° 30' to Slavery. They may not be able to exclude Slavery by Congressional enactment, while the Senate is against them; but they can at least settle in the Territories, and vote Slavery out, as they have done in Kansas. They are no believers in the absolute sovereignty of the Territories; but they insist that if Congress fails to perform its duty in excluding Slavery, the people residing in them, consulting their “own interests, may perhaps be dying out.

The Right Word in the Right Place: A new Pocket Dictionary and Reference Book; containing extensive collections of Synonyms, Technical Terms, Abbreviations, and Foreign Phrases; Chapters on Writing for the Press, Punctuation, and Proof-Reading; and other valuable information. By Augustus J. Evans. How to Write. How to Read, &c. New York: Fowler & Wells, No. 30 Broadway. Boston: No. 114 Washington street. Philadelphia: No. 926 Chestnut street. 1859.

The word in the right place! Then

has the millennial day indeed dawned for distressed folks, fastidious essayists, and haughty orators. No more putting about in distress for a rhyme or an epithet. A very great diminution of challenges and “rejected addresses” of right do so, before they form a State Constitution.

If there ever was a time when the restoration of the Missouri line would have been an acceptable peace-offering, it is too late, now that all the utility of that line has been secured by the independent action of the people. It is more than surprising that they are to myself, or heard by any one with more regret. I do not know how to make this denial more broadly than I have; but when the jaundiced eye of some political opponent in the free States, who is now exacting a heavy toll over this sad history, the fact that it may be a mere accident politically, by which the Democratic party may reap some benefit, and the Republican party be injured, shall have pointed out one of the charges thus recklessly brought against me, or for a single circumstance calculated to cast a suspicion upon me in an unprejudiced mind.

I never had any knowledge or intimation of the sort, was contemplated by John Brown, or any one else, in Virginia or elsewhere, nor had I the remotest suspicion of the fact; and when the knowledge of the late occurrences in Virginia was first made public there was no one who could have been so much surprised as I was, that no human being were then more interested and surprised than they were to myself, or heard by any one with more regret. I do not know how to make this denial more broadly than I have; but when the jaundiced eye of some political opponent in the free States, who is now exacting a heavy toll over this sad history, the fact that it may be a mere accident politically, by which the Democratic party may reap some benefit, and the Republican party be injured, shall have pointed out one of the charges thus recklessly brought against me, or for a single circumstance calculated to cast a suspicion upon me in an unprejudiced mind.

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